

S/N 09/R90.758
In response to Office Action mailed December 2, 2004.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 7 is hereby amended.

Claims 1, 5, 15, and 16 were rejected as being unpatentable over Sawada (US 6,738,165) in view of Onishi (JP 2000-115485). This application is the national stage of PCT/JP00/00578, filed on February 2, 2000, which is before the December 20, 2000 filing date of Sawada and the April 21, 2000 publication date of Onishi. Therefore, neither reference is available as prior art and this rejection is moot. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims. Favorable reconsideration of claims 1, 5, 15, and 16 is requested.

Claims 3, 6-13, and 17 were rejected as being unpatentable over Sawada, in view of Onishi, and further in view of Fujimoto (US 6,195,183). This rejection is rendered moot for the reasons noted above. Applicants are not conceding the relevance of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims. Favorable reconsideration of claims 3, 6-13, and 17 is requested.

Claim 7 was rejected as indefinite. Claim 7 is amended to depend from claim 6, reflecting proper antecedent basis for "the white spot and the black spot". Favorable reconsideration of claim 7 is requested.

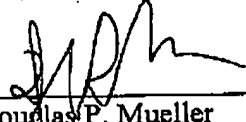
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In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Douglas P. Mueller, Reg. No. 30,300, at (612)455-3804.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: April 29, 2005




Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.
225 South Sixth Street
Suite 2650
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.455.3800

DPM:mfe